

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Advisory Action mailed February 17, 2006. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Claims 40-43, 46, 47, 52-56, 59, 60, 65, 67-70, 73, and 74 have been amended and Claims 36, 37, 48, 49, 61, 62, and 75-84 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this Application.

Claims 36, 37, 41-43, 45, 48, 49, 53-56, 58, 61, 62, 65, 67-70, 72, 75, 77, 78, 80, 82, and 83 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Smith, Jr. Claims 36, 37, 48, 49, 61, 62, and 75-84 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer for possible further prosecution in a continuation application in order that allowed Claims 38, 39, 50, 51, 63, and 64 can proceed to issuance. Claims 40-43, 46, 47, 52-56, 59, 60, 65, 67-70, 73, and 74 have been amended to respectively depend from allowed Claims 38, 50, and 63. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 38-43, 46, 47, 50-56, 59, 60, 63-65, 67-70, 73, and 74 are patentably distinct from the Smith, Jr. patent.

Claims 40, 42, 52, and 66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Jr. in view of Lund. Claims 40, 42, 52, and 65 (from which Claim 66 depends) have been amended to depend from allowed Claims 38, 50, and 63 respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 40, 42, 52, and 66 are patentably distinct from the proposed Smith, Jr. - Lund combination.

Claims 44, 57, and 71 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Jr. Claim 43 (from which Claim 44 depends), Claim 56 (from which Claim 57 depends), and Claim 70 (from which Claim 71 depends) have been

amended to depend from allowable Claims 38, 50, and 63 respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 44, 57, and 71 are patentably distinct from the Smith, Jr. patent.

Claims 46, 47, 59, 60, 73, and 74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Jr. in view of Pelletier, et al. Claims 46, 47, 59, 60, 73, and 74 have been amended to depend from allowable Claims 38, 50, and 63 respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 46, 47, 59, 60, 73, and 74 are patentably distinct from the proposed Smith, Jr. - Pelletier, et al. combination.

Claims 76 and 81 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Jr. in view of Lund. Claims 76 and 81 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so that this Application can proceed to issuance.

Claims 79 and 84 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Jr. in view of Pelletier, et al. Claims 79 and 84 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so that this Application can proceed to issuance.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of Claims 38, 39, 50, 51, 63, and 64. Claims 40-43, 46, 47, 52-56, 59, 60, 65, 67-70, 73, and 74 have been amended to depend from allowable Claims 38, 50, and 63 respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 38-43, 46, 47, 50-56, 59, 60, 63-65, 67-70, 73, and 74 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles S. Fish', is written over the printed name.

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March 2, 2006

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